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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: AOKI et al.

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Examiner: MICHALSKY

Title: FUEL TANK WELDING JOINT  
AND MANUFACTURING METHOD  
THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.